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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, a separate Head of the Department will be costly. For efficient working of the department also, it was decided in the year 1949 that it should be under the Inspector-General of Police."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Am I to understand that this is still kept as a separate department and there has been no amalgamation of the Fire Services with the Police service? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There has been no amalgamation of the Fire Service with the Police Service."

Strike in the Tile Works at Pinarayi, Malabar

* 2343 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many workers are involved in the strike in the Tile Works at Pinarayi near Tellicherry, Malabar, going on since 14th March 1955;

(*b*) whether the Government have taken any conciliation proceedings; and

(*c*) if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Fifty-three workers of the Tellicherry Tile Company, Ltd., Pinarayi, are involved in the strike.

" (*b*) The Labour Officer, Kozhikode, conducted conciliation proceedings in the matter on 17th March 1955.

" (*c*) Both the parties came to an agreement on all the demands except on those for an increase in wages and payment of bonus. The issues relating to fixation of wages of the workers and bonus for the years 1951–52, 1952–53 and 1953–54, have been referred for adjudication."

Treatment for N.G.Os. at Sengipatti T.B. Sanatorium

* 2344 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of applications received from the Non-Gazetted Officers under medical treatment at T.B. Sanatorium, Sengipatti, Tanjore district, in the year 1954 for the grant of free concessions to which they are eligible; and

(*b*) whether there was any delay in the disposal of these applications; and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) 15, Sir.

" (*b*) The question whether any reimbursement of medical expenses can be made when Non-Gazetted Officers and employees of local bodies undergo treatment in a private Tuberculosis sanatorium and if so on what conditions, was under the consideration of Government and orders were finally issued in the matter on 5th May 1955. Steps were taken afterwards to dispose of the applications."

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SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, how many of the Non-Gazetted Officers were disposed of by Providence before their applications could be disposed of by the Government?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" We have no census figures, Sir, in this matter."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Now in every district certain Medical Officers have been authorized to give treatment to Non-Gazetted Officers free of cost. When they are admitted into the hospital they have to give their applications to the Government to declare them eligible for free treatment. But there is delay in the disposal of these applications with the result that the Medical officers are not able to give free treatment to them. So will the Government consider the desirability of issuing orders to the medical authorities concerned to the effect that if they are satisfied that the person concerned is a Non-Gazetted Officer and is eligible for free treatment, they should begin to give the treatment even from the date of admission?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The hon. Member is raising a different question. This question relates to T.B. Sanatoria."

Disposal of cases in Rent Courts

* 2345 Q.—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have fixed any specific number of cases to be disposed of per week by Rent Courts; if so, what the number is;

(b) whether the Government have issued instructions or prescribed rules for reviewing the work of Rent Courts by the appellate authority;

(c) whether the Government have issued instructions to the Collectors to carry out a drive for disposal of petitions in Rent Courts; and

(d) whether the Government have instructed Rent Courts to dispose of cases by holding sittings in the villages?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) No, Sir.

" (b) & (c) Quarterly and monthly progress reports have been prescribed by the Government to watch the number of applications disposed of by the Rent Courts. Suitable instructions are issued whenever the outturn is observed to be poor. The appellate authority against any order passed by a Rent Court is the Subordinate Judge or the Principal Subordinate Judge as the case may be of the Subordinate Judge's Court having jurisdiction over the area in which the holding is situate. No instructions have been issued or rules prescribed by the Government for the review of the work of Rent Courts by the Appellate authorities.

" (d) No, Sir."